contributions only was about Rs. 40 crores from factories which were registered with BIFR; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government to recover the arrears from the defaulting companies?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no sub-section (6) under Section 22 of the SICA. As such the question of making any amendment in the sub-section does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Necessary legal and penal action is being taken to recover the arrears outstanding against the defaulting companies not registered with the BIFR.

Census of Beedi and Tobacco workers in Karnataka

*190. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted a census of beedi workers and tobacco workers in Karnataka;

(b) to what extent welfare measures have been effective for them;

(c) whether a safety net against unemployment is to be created for them in Karnataka; and

(d) the steps proposed to be undertaken to encourage adequate production environment for beedi and tobacco sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the State Government and the Welfare Commissioner, Bangalore, the number of beedi workers in the State of Karnataka is estimated at 3.55 lakhs. According to 1981 census, the number of beedi workers in the State of Karnataka was 2,53,898. Data based 1991 census concerning beedi workers is not yet available.

Lists of welfare schemes being implemented for beedi workers and the number of beneficiaries in the State of Karnataka during the last 3 years are attached as Statement-I&II (*See* below) Several steps have been taken to step up the tempo of welfare activities and to stream-line the working of the various welfare schemes for beedi workers. Highest priority is being given to schemes relating to housing, educational and health facilities for beedi workers. The quantum of financial assistance has been increased under different schemes and there is a substantial increase in the number of beneficiaries covered. The Tripartite Central Advisory Committee set up under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976 which met on 14.3.95 have appreciated the good work being done in recent years for the welfare of beedi workers and made several recommendations for further improvement. The Regional Conference of State Labour Ministers of Southern Region held in Trivandrum on 4th October, 1994, of Eastern and North Eastern Region held at Bhubaneswar on 29th and 30th September, 1994 and Central and Northern Region held at Jaipur on 25th October, 1994, took important decisions concerning the revision of minimum wages for beedi workers and constitution of tripartite committee for standardisation of raw material etc. However, there is no proposal under consideration at present to create a safety net against unemployment for beedi workers in Karnataka as no serious or singificant threat of unemployment is envisaged now.

The Tobacco Board in the Ministry of Commerce are taking various steps to increase production of tobacco and export promotion of tobacco and tobacco products. According to the Ministry of Industry, all the benefits available to small scale industry are extended to beedi industry.

Statement-I

S.No. Name of the Scheme

Health

1. Static-cum-mobile/Static Allopathic and Static Ayurvedic dispensaries for Beedi Workers.
2. Scheme for Reservation of Beds in T.B. Hospitals for Beedi Workers.
3. Scheme for Domicilliary Treatment of Beedi Workers.
4. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Cancer.
5. Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
6. Scheme for treatment of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Workers) suffering from Leprosy.
7. Grant of Financial Assistance to Beedi Workers for purchase of Spectacles.
8. Maternity Benefit Scheme for Female Beedi Workers.
9. Scheme for payment of Monetary Compensation for sterilisation to Beedi Workers.
10. Re-imbursement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Heart Diseases.
11. Re-imbursement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Kidney Transplantation.

Social Security Scheme

1. Group Insurance Scheme for Beedi Workers.

Housing

1. Build Your Own House Scheme for Beedi Workers.
2. Housing Scheme for Economically Weaker Sections of Beedi Workers.
3. Grant of subsidy to co-operative societies of Beedi Industry for construction of worksheds and godowns.
4. Group Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers.

Education

1. Award of Scholarship to the children of Beedi Workers including Gharkhata Beedi Workers.
2. Composite scheme for Financial Assistance to the School going children of Beedi Workers for supply of one set of dress and slates, note books, text books.

Recreation

1. Establishment of Audio Visual Sets/Cinema Vans/Exhibition of films.
2. Organising sports, games, social and cultural activities for Beedi Workers.
3. Holiday Home Scheme for Beedi Workers.
4. Supply of T.V. Sets to the Beedi Workers Industrial Co-operative Societies.

Statement-II

Number of beneficiaries and the amount spent under important Welfare Schemes for the beedi workers out of the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund in the State of Karnataka

Year	No. of beneficiaries		Amount incurred (in Lakhs)
(a) Purchase of Medicines for dispensaries/hospital:			
1992-93	4,32,725	(Patients treated)	13.84
1993-94	4,45,796	-do-	14.94
1994-95 (upto Feb.95)	4,37,406	-do-	21.15
(b) Education (Scholarships/uniforms etc.):			
1992-93	8281		22.54
1993-94	18929		66.11
1994-95 (upto 2/95)	27752		97.02
(c) Housing under E.W.S.			
1992-93	400 (houses)		23.20
1993-94	1305 (houses)		75.75

महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों का अपने ऋण संबंधी लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में असफल रहना

*191. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दूरसंचार, रेलवे और विद्युत के महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र लगातार दूसरे वर्ष अपने ऋण संबंधी लक्ष्यों को पूरा नहीं कर पाए हैं;